

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

A Partial Albino Red-tailed Hawk.—On April 14, 1932, the Pennsylvania State Game Commission received a partial albino female Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo borealis borealis*) which had been killed a few days before at Bradford, Pennsylvania. Fifty per cent of the plumage was of abnormal color. The distribution of it was very irregular, but in nearly every case the feathers of each wing matched in color. In the tail the color of the sides was uneven. The eyes were too much damaged to show color. This is the first case of albinism I have seen in the fifteen birds of this species that I have skinned.—MERRILL WOOD, *Harrisburg, Pa.*

A Flight of Broad-winged Hawks.—On September 14, 1932, while standing on a little knoll at the outskirts of Dows, Wright County, Iowa, I saw a flock of thirty-eight Broad-winged Hawks (*Buteo platypterus platypterus*). The Iowa River here takes a southeasterly course, and the birds were strung along in the air over the river for a distance of perhaps two miles. After the manner of the White Pelican, they were circling and at the same time making progress with the course of the stream. They kept directly over the river and at varying distances above the trees. A few small groups of six or eight moved together, but the majority of birds were separated as individuals.

On September 21, 1932, I visited Backbone State Park in Delaware County, Iowa, accompanied by Fred J. Pierce of Winthrop. During the course of the day we counted 140 Broad-winged Hawks flying over. We estimated that they were about 500 feet over our heads. The birds appeared singly at times and at others from ten to fifteen in a group would wheel about in the air, each circle described carrying them a little bit farther southward. On one occasion, while we had our glasses on the birds, four Ruby-throated Hummingbirds crossed the field of vision at a height of about 100 feet and flying directly south.—CHARLES J. SPIKER, *New Hampton, Iowa.*

First Record of the White Gyrfalcon for Michigan.—A White Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus candicans*), the first record for Michigan, was shot January 21, 1932, near Sault Ste. Marie, and is now in the University Museum at Ann Arbor. When shot it had just struck down a Greater Prairie Chicken. Ten years ago the Greater Prairie Chicken was practically unknown in the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, but now it is quite common in many places. This note was received from Mr. M. J. Magee, the well known bird bander of Sault Ste. Marie.—RALPH BEEBE, *Ecorse, Mich.*

The Pomarine Jaeger in South Dakota.—During the past fall a specimen of the Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) was sent to the Museum of Natural History of the University of Minnesota by Mr. Alfred Peterson of Pipestone, Minnesota. The bird had been taken on October 9, 1932, by Mr. R. A. Hyde near Madison, South Dakota. It was in the dark immature plumage, with the central tail feathers hardly appreciably longer than the other rectrices. An examination of the stomach contents revealed that it had recently fed on a portion of an adult Franklin's Gull (*Larus pepixcan*). This bird is known to prey on small birds, and if hard pressed, might be capable of taking a Franklin's Gull, but very likely it was playing the role of scavenger in feeding on this bird.—W. J. BRECKENRIDGE, *Museum of Natural History, Minneapolis, Minn.*